

Notes on the Name *Leptopiinae*¹
(Coleoptera: Curculionidae)

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The name of the broad-nosed weevil group whose type-genus was for so long known as *Leptops* has been the subject of considerable confusion, and it is believed that a summary of pertinent facts will be of assistance.

In such standard modern works as *Coleopterorum Catalogus* and Blackwelder's checklist of the Latin American Coleoptera, *Leptops* and *Leptopiinae* are used. *Leptops* Schoenherr, 1834, however, is a homonym of *Leptops* Rafinesque, 1820 (*Pices*). Sir Guy Marshall noted this fact, and in 1952 he proposed the substitute name *Leptosus* and used the spelling *Leptosinae* for the subfamily name. Unfortunately, Marshall wrote his 1952 paper without knowledge that Oke had published the replacement name *Leptopius* a few months earlier in his 1951 report on "The Coleoptera of the Russell Grimwade Expedition" (*Mem. Nat. Mus. Victoria* 17:24). The Oke reference does not appear in the *Zoological Record* volume for 1951, but it is recorded in the 1952 volume. Oke's statements concerning the problem are as follows: "Subfamily LEPTOPIINAE/ A slight emendation, necessary by the change of the typical genus./ *Leptopius* nom. nov./ This name is proposed for the well known *Leptops*, which had been used by Rafinesque (1820) for *Pices* before being used by Schoenherr [1834]. Both Lea [*Ann. Soc. Ent. Belgique* 50:239-314, 1906] and McKeown [*Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. Wales* 64:408, 1939] have suggested that *Leptops* and *Baryopadus* are the same, but this is not so. *Baryopadus* has very different tarsi, as already mentioned by Marshall [*Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.* (X)6:558-559, 1930]." These details are so similar to those given by Marshall in 1952 [*Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.* (XII)5:264-265] that I suspect that it was from data supplied by Marshall from the Commonwealth Institute of Entomology and British Museum (Nat. Hist.) that Oke prepared his report.

Thus we have the following:

Leptopius Oke

Leptops Schoenherr, 1834, *Genera et Species Curculionidum* . . . 2:297. Type-species by original designation: *Curculio robustus* Olivier, 1807; Australia. Homonym of *Leptops* Rafinesque, 1820, *Pices*.

Leptopius Oke, 1951, *Mem. Nat. Mus. Victoria* 17:24, replacement name for *Leptops* Schoenherr.

Leptosus Marshall, 1952, *Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.* (XII)5:265, an unnecessary replacement name for *Leptops* Schoenherr.

Article 39 of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature*, on the homonymy of the type-genus, states: "The name of a taxon of the family-group is invalid if the name of its nominal type-genus is a junior homonym." Hence, we have:

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LEPTOPIINAE (Lacordaire) Oke

Leptopsides: Lacordaire, 1863, *Genera des Coléoptères* 6:232, 246.

Leptopsinae: Pascoe, 1870, *Journ. Linn. Soc.* 10 (Zool.) (47):436.

Leptopodinae: Pascoe, 1872, *Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.* (IV)9:132.

Leptopinae: Pascoe, 1885, *Ann. Mus. Civ. Genova* (II)2:218, 326.

Leptopsini: Faust, 1885, *Deutsche Ent. Zeitschrift* 29(1):167. Misprinted *Lep-tosinae* in *Coleopterorum Catalogus*, 1931.

Leptosini: as an error in spelling, Schenkling and Marshall, 1931, *Coleopterorum Catalogus* 114 (*Leptopinae*): 1.

Leptosinae: as an error in spelling, Schenkling and Marshall, same reference.

Leptopiinae: Oke, 1951, *Mem. Nat. Mus. Victoria* 17:24.

Leptosinae: Marshall, 1952, *Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.* (XII)5:264.

Part of the confusion concerning *Leptopius* arose from the fact that in 1906 (*Ann. Soc. Ent. Belgique* 50:318-319), Lea misidentified a species of *Leptopius* as *Baryopadus corrugatus* Pascoe, the type-species of *Baryopadus*, 1870, and he then erroneously concluded that *Baryopadus* was the same as *Leptopius*. Without having adequate knowledge of the problem, K. C. McKeown, in 1939, in a paper entitled "A Note on the Synonymy of Leptops" (*Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. Wales* 64.408), stated that Lea had "proved conclusively" that *Leptops* and *Baryopadus* are the same. For reasons unknown, McKeown placed *Leptops*, 1834, as a synonym of *Baryopadus*, 1870. He also erroneously "sank" *Leptopinae* as a synonym of *Entiminae* and the *Leptopini* as a synonym of *Stenocorynini*. McKeown overlooked the fact that in 1930 [*Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.* (X)6:558-559] Sir Guy Marshall had revealed Lea's errors and demonstrated that *Baryopadus* and *Leptopius* are different genera. In 1952 [*Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.* (XII)5:264-265] Marshall gave more details concerning the two genera and a key to separate them from an allied new genus, *Amnemus* Marshall.

Corrections

A correction: In the Key to the genera of American bidessine water beetles, *Coleopt. Bull.*, 21 (1), I was in error in recording the parameres of the male genitalia of *Hypodessus* as unjointed. It is *Hydrodessus*, *Brachyvatus*, and *Amarodytes* in which the parameres are unjointed. The joint in the paramere of *Hypodessus* is illustrated by Spangler, P. J., in The Catherwood Foundation Peruvian-Amazon Expedition. XIII—Aquatic Coleoptera. . . *Mono. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia*, No. 14, pl. 1, figs. 2 and 6.

Also, the last item in the references cited is by Zimmermann, A. Südamerikanischen is the correct spelling of the misspelled word in the title.—FRANK N. YOUNG

There were a number of omissions on the cover of the December issue (Vol. 21). Most serious is the complete deletion of the first entry under the NOTES: "Collecting in Mexico, by Ball and Whitehead, p. 122." In addition, McDermott should have been listed as author of the *Photuris* article, and Edmonds as the author of the *Phanaeus* paper.—J. N. L. STIBICK

An unfortunate typographical error occurs on page 95 of volume 21. Line 3 from the top should read: 'It should be noted that this work would not have been possible *without* Green's (1956) revision.' Biologists owe a great debt to sound taxonomy, and the work reported in this review emphasized the value of Green's work.—R. H. ARNETT, JR.